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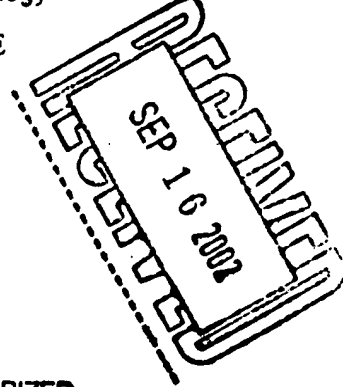


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 6787
Tohru HIRAYAMA et al. : Docket No. 2002_0486A
Serial No. 10/089,882 : Group Art Unit 2121
Filed April 5, 2002 :

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ORDER-RECEIVING SYSTEM AND AGENT'S
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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

a. ☒ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,

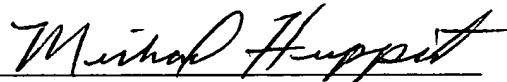
- c. [X] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page 9,
- d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstracts,
- e. [X] the concise explanation for reference AJ set forth below:

U.S. Publication No. 2001/0036309 A1 corresponds to Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-221690.

5. [X] Also enclosed are English translation of Japanese references AJ (2000-148785), AK (2000-160069) and AO which were previously cited in an IDS filed on April 5, 2002 and are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

Tohru HIRAYAMA et al.

By 

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July 23, 2002

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

JUL 23 2002

Date Submitted to PTO: July 23, 2002

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2002_0486ASERIAL NO.
10/089,882APPLICANT
Tohru HIRAYAMA et al.FILING DATE
April 5, 2002GROUP
2121

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|----|--------------------|---------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | AA | 2001/0036309 A1 | 11/2001 | Hirayama et al. | | | RECEIVED |
| | AB | | | | | | JUL 24 2002 |
| | AC | | | | | | Technology Center 2100 |
| | AD | | | | | | |
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| | AF | | | | | | |
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| | AH | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO | |
|--|----|--------------------|--------|---------|-------|----------|-----------------------|--|
| | AJ | 2001-221690 | 8/2001 | JP | | | Abstr. | |
| | AK | 2000-148785 | 5/2000 | JP | | | Abstr. | |
| | AL | 2000-160069 | 6/2000 | JP | | | Abstr. | |
| | AM | | | | | | | |
| | AN | | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | AO | TSUCHIYA et al., "'Kei', Tanmatsu wo Minaosu; Hakusha kakaru Mattan Torihiki-saki no Network-ka", Nikkei Communication, No. 139, (Japan), 07 December 1992, (07.12.92), pages 44 to 55, (especially, page 48) - Partial Translation. | | | | | |
| | AP | RECEIVED SEP 11 2002 GROUP 3000 | | | | | |
| | AQ | | | | | | |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED